

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) An ultrasonic measurement system for determining flow of a gas or low density fluid in a conduit, such system comprising:

a first clamp-on transmitter receiver pair configured to define a first ultrasonic signal path across fluid flowing in the conduit and to generate a first tag-modulated output signal;

a second clamp-on transmitter receiver pair configured and mounted to define a second ultrasonic signal path anti-parallel to the first ultrasonic signal path and across fluid flowing in the conduit~~[[;]], said second clamp-on transmitter receiver pair being mounted so that the second ultrasonic signal path is anti-parallel to the first ultrasonic signal path and~~ spaced a fixed distance from said first ultrasonic signal path, said second clamp-on transmitter receiver pair further configured to generate a second tag-modulated output signal therefrom; and

a processor operative configured to correlate said first a tag-modulated output signal of said first pair with said second a tag-modulated output signal of said second pair to determine a time interval representative of flow.

2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said first pair operates at a different frequency than said second pair.

3. (original) The system of claim 1, operating in a frequency range above 100 kilohertz.

4. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein said frequency range lies above approximately 900 kilohertz.

5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said first pair operates at a frequency

different than frequency of operation of said second pair, and received signals are demodulated at their transmission frequency.

6. (original) The system of claim 5, wherein said first pair operates at a frequency within approximately ten percent of said frequency of operation of said second pair.

7. (original) The system of claim 5, wherein said first pair and said second pair operate in a continuous mode.

8. (currently amended) An ultrasonic measurement system for measuring flow of gas in a conduit, such system comprising:

first and second clamp-on transmitter receiver pairs configured to define ~~defining~~ first and second transit paths across a conduit, the second transit path being anti-parallel to the first transit path, said first and second clamp-on transmitter receiver pairs further configured to output tag-modulated signals;

a signal processor configured to process ~~for processing~~ signals received along said first and second paths; and

a correlator configured to determine ~~for determining~~ a time interval between the correlated tag-modulated signals on said first and second paths.

9. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said transducers are coupled to the steam pipe of a building heating system.

10. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said transducers are attached to a process feed gas pipe of a chemical plant.

11. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said transducers are attached to a conduit having a nominal diameter under about two inches.

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A method of measuring flow of steam or gas in a conduit,

such method comprising the steps of:

providing a first clamp-on transmitter/receiver pair defining a first signal path across fluid in the pipe such that a first receiver output is modulated by tags in the fluid;

providing a second clamp-on transmitter/receiver pair defining a second signal path anti-parallel to the first signal path and across fluid in the pipe such that a second receiver output is modulated by tags in the fluid; and

~~the second signal path being anti-parallel to the first path; and~~

correlating the second receiver tag-modulated output with the first receiver tag-modulated output to determine flow rate.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, further including the steps of operating the first transmitter/receiver pair at a first frequency and operating the second transmitter/receiver pair at a second frequency different from the first frequency, wherein the first frequency is sufficiently high to be well modulated by the tags, and the second frequency is close to the first frequency.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first ultrasonic path across fluid flowing in the conduit is perpendicular to the axis of the conduit.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first ultrasonic path across fluid flowing in the conduit is oblique to the axis of the conduit.